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(f) Agencies must transmit this information to the Federal Procurement Data System in accordance with its procedures.

[50 FR 52429, Dec. 23, 1985, as amended at 52 FR 19802, May 27, 1987; 60 FR 42653, Aug. 16, 1995; 64 FR 72442, Dec. 27, 1999]

4.602 Federal Procurement Data System.

(a) The FPDS provides a comprehensive mechanism for assembling, organizing, and presenting contract placement data for the Federal Government. Federal agencies report data to the Federal Procurement Data Center (FPDC), which collects, processes, and disseminates official statistical data on Federal contracting. The data provide (1) a basis for recurring and special reports to the President, the Congress, the General Accounting Office, Federal executive agencies, and the general public;

(2) A means of measuring and assessing the impact of Federal contracting on the Nation's economy and the extent to which small, veteran-owned small, service-disabled veteran-owned small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns are sharing in Federal contracts; and

(3) Data for other policy and management control purposes.

(b) The *FPDS Reporting Manual* provides a complete list of reporting and nonreporting agencies and organizations. This manual (available at no charge from the General Services Administration, Federal Procurement Data Center, 7th & D Streets SW., room 5652, Washington, DC 20407, telephone (202) 401-1529, FAX (202) 401-1546) provides the necessary instruction to the data collection point in each agency as to what data are required and how often to provide the data.

(c) Data collection points in each agency report data on SF 279, Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) Individual Contract Action Report, and SF 281, Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) Summary Contract Action Report (\$25,000 or Less), or computer-generated equivalent. Although the SF 279 and SF 281 are not mandatory for use by the agencies, they do provide

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the mandatory format for submitting data to the FPDS.

(d) The contracting officer must report a Contractor Identification Number for each successful offeror. A Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, which is a nine-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services to an establishment, is the Contractor Identification Number for Federal contractors. The DUNS number reported must identify the successful offeror's name and address exactly as stated in the offer and resultant contract. The contracting officer must ask the offeror to provide its DUNS number by using the provision prescribed at 4.603(a). If the successful offeror does not provide its number, the contracting officer must contact the offeror and obtain the DUNS number.

[48 FR 42113, Sept. 19, 1983. Redesignated at 50 FR 52429, Dec. 23, 1985, and amended at 54 FR 29280, July 11, 1989; 53 FR 43388, Oct. 26, 1988; 55 FR 52788, Dec. 21, 1990; 56 FR 41744, Aug. 22, 1991; 57 FR 60572, Dec. 21, 1992; 60 FR 48259, Sept. 18, 1995; 61 FR 67412, Dec. 20, 1996; 62 FR 40236, July 25, 1997; 65 FR 60544, Oct. 11, 2000]

4.603 Solicitation provisions.

(a)(1) The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 52.204-6, Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number, in solicitations that are expected to result in a requirement for the generation of an SF 279, Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS)—Individual Contract Action Report (see 4.602(c)), or a similar agency form.

(2) For offerors located outside the United States, the contracting officer may modify paragraph (c) of the provision at 52.204-6 to provide the correct phone numbers for the Dun and Bradstreet offices in the areas from which offerors are anticipated to respond.

(b) The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 52.204-5, Women-Owned Business (Other Than Small Business), in all solicitations that are not set aside for small business concerns and that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, if the contract is to be performed inside the United States, its territories or possessions, Puerto Rico, the Trust Territory of the

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Pacific Islands, or the District of Columbia.

[61 FR 67412, Dec. 20, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 9050, Feb. 23, 1998; 64 FR 10532, Mar. 4, 1999]

Subpart 4.7—Contractor Records Retention

4.700 Scope of subpart.

This subpart provides policies and procedures for retention of records by contractors to meet the records review requirements of the Government. In this subpart, the terms “contracts” and “contractors” include “subcontracts” and “subcontractors.”

4.701 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to generally describe records retention requirements and to allow reductions in the retention period for specific classes of records under prescribed circumstances.

4.702 Applicability.

(a) This subpart applies to records generated under contracts that contain one of the following clauses:

(1) Audit and Records—Sealed Bidding (52.214-26).

(2) Audit and Records—Negotiation (52.215-2).

(b) This subpart is not mandatory on Department of Energy contracts for which the Comptroller General allows alternative records retention periods. Apart from this exception, this subpart applies to record retention periods under contracts that are subject to Chapter 137, Title 10, U.S.C., and the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.

[48 FR 42113, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 1727, Jan. 11, 1985; 50 FR 52429, Dec. 23, 1985; 60 FR 42650, Aug. 16, 1995; 60 FR 48211, Sept. 18, 1995; 62 FR 258, Jan. 2, 1997]

4.703 Policy.

(a) Except as stated in 4.703(b), contractors shall make available records, which includes books, documents, accounting procedures and practices, and other data, regardless of type and regardless of whether such items are in written form, in the form of computer

data, or in any other form, and other supporting evidence to satisfy contract negotiation, administration, and audit requirements of the contracting agencies and the Comptroller General for (1) 3 years after final payment or, for certain records, (2) the period specified in 4.705 through 4.705-3, whichever of these periods expires first.

(b) Contractors shall make available the foregoing records and supporting evidence for a longer period of time than is required in 4.703(a) if—

(1) A retention period longer than that cited in 4.703(a) is specified in any contract clause; or

(2) The contractor, for its own purposes, retains the foregoing records and supporting evidence for a longer period. Under this circumstance, the retention period shall be the period of the contractor's retention or 3 years after final payment, whichever period expires first.

(3) The contractor does not meet the original due date for submission of final indirect cost rate proposals specified in subparagraph (d)(2) of the clause at 52.216-7, Allowable Cost and Payment, and subparagraph (c)(2) of the clause at 52.216-13, Allowable Cost and Payment—Facilities. Under these circumstances, the retention periods in 4.705 shall be automatically extended one day for each day the proposal is not submitted after the original due date.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude a contractor from duplicating or storing original records in electronic form unless they contain significant information not shown on the record copy. Original records need not be maintained or produced in an audit if the contractor or subcontractor provides photographic or electronic images of the original records and meets the following requirements:

(1) The contractor or subcontractor has established procedures to ensure that the imaging process preserves accurate images of the original records, including signatures and other written or graphic images, and that the imaging process is reliable and secure so as to maintain the integrity of the records.